



**TESTIMONY**  
**ON THE**  
**D.C. OFFICE ON AGING'S**  
**FY 2007 AND 2008 PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE**  
**OVERSIGHT HEARING**  
**BEFORE THE**  
**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL**  
**COMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**  
**AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
**THE HONORABLE CAROL SCHWARTZ, CHAIR**

**PRESENTED BY**  
**CLARENCE P. BROWN, PH.D.**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**FEBRUARY 29, 2008**  
**1:30 pm**

**GOOD AFTERNOON CHAIRPERSON SCHWARTZ AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS. MY NAME IS CLARENCE P. BROWN. I AM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE D.C. OFFICE ON AGING AND JOINING ME TODAY FROM THE OFFICE ON AGING ARE: MS. DONNA DUNSTON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR; MR. SAM GAWAD, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER; AND MS. ROXANNE ANDO, PROGRAMS, GRANTS, AND CONTRACT MANAGER. MS. JACQUELINE ARGUELLES, CHAIRPERSON OF THE D.C. COMMISSION ON AGING, IS ALSO PRESENT AND IS SCHEDULED TO PROVIDE TESTIMONY TODAY.**

**I AM PLEASED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE TO DESCRIBE AND DISCUSS THE PERFORMANCE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA OFFICE ON AGING FOR FY 2007 AND FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF FISCAL YEAR 2008.**

**THE OFFICE ON AGING'S STAFF, MANAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP AND THE SENIOR SERVICES NETWORK ARE COMMITTED TO**

**CONTINUOUSLY ACHIEVING THE MISSION OF THE OFFICE ON AGING AS SET FORTH IN DC. LAW 1-24. AS YOU KNOW, THE OFFICE ON AGING'S MISSION IS "TO ADVOCATE, PLAN, IMPLEMENT AND MONITOR PROGRAMS IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES THAT PROMOTE LONGEVITY, INDEPENDENCE, DIGNITY AND CHOICE FOR OUR SENIORS."**

**I HAVE BEEN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DC OFFICE ON AGING FOR EIGHT MONTHS SINCE MY APPOINTMENT BY MAYOR ADRIAN FENTY ON JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> AND YOUR CONFIRMATION HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>. DURING YOUR COMMITTEE'S CONFIRMATION HEARING I DESCRIBED WHAT THE MAYOR'S VISION IS FOR THE OFFICE ON AGING WHICH ALSO REFLECTED MY VISION AND THE CITY'S VISION.**

**I ALSO IDENTIFIED SEVERAL INITIATIVES THAT I WANTED TO UNDERTAKE TO REALIZE THAT VISION AND FURTHER ACHIEVE THE MISSION OF THE DC OFFICE ON AGING. I AM PLEASED TO REPORT THAT THE DC OFFICE ON AGING IS**

**EFFECTIVELY MAKING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARD THOSE INITIATIVES. MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE DC OFFICE ON AGING IS IN THE PROCESS OF TRANSFORMATION, GROWTH, AND POSITIVE CHANGE THAT WILL BETTER SERVE OUR OLDER RESIDENTS. IN PART, THIS TRANSFORMATION IS REFLECTED IN THE NEW AND REVISED AGENCY'S ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE DEVELOPED IN FY 2007 AND MADE EFFECTIVE IN FY 2008.**

**IN FISCAL YEAR 2007, THE OFFICE ON AGING'S TOTAL BUDGET WAS \$23,894,971 WHICH CONSISTED OF:**

<b><u>Source of Funds</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
Local funds	\$16,784,000
Federal funds	\$6,800,971
Intra District funds/DOES	<u>\$310,000</u>
Total	<b>\$23,894,971</b>

**MORE THAN 92% OF THE OFFICE ON AGING'S TOTAL BUDGET EXPENDITURE IS FOR DIRECT SERVICES WHICH ARE PROVIDED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NON-PROFIT AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS THAT MAKES UP THE SENIOR SERVICE NETWORK.**

**THE OFFICE ON AGING HAS 28.5 FTEs THAT ARE FUNDED THROUGH THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:**

<b><u>Number of Employees</u></b>	<b><u>Funding Source</u></b>
<b>16.5 FTEs</b>	<b>LOCAL FUNDS</b>
<b>9.0 FTEs</b>	<b>FEDERAL FUNDS</b>
<b><u>3.0 FTEs</u></b>	<b>INTRA-DISTRICT FUNDS</b>
<b>28.5</b>	

**BASED ON THE 2007 TOTAL SENIOR POPULATION OF 96,838 WHO ARE AGE 60 AND OVER, THE D. C. OFFICE ON AGING SERVED 50,827; OR FIFTY-TWO PERCENT (52%) OF THE TOTAL POPULATION RECEIVED ONE OR MORE SERVICES DURING FY 2007.**

**THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES ESTABLISHED FOR THE AGENCY WERE:**

- IN-HOME AND CONTINUING CARE**
- COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT**
- CONSUMER INFORMATION, ASSISTANCE AND OUTREACH**

**THE OFFICE ON AGING'S PERFORMANCE IN FY 07 SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEEDED TARGETS IN ALL CATEGORIES WITH ACTUAL PERFORMANCE RANGING FROM 107% TO 213% OF THE TARGETED GOALS. THE EXCEPTION WAS THE MEASURE OF**

**ADULT DAY AND HOME CARE CLIENTS REMAINING IN THEIR HOMES FOR ONE YEAR, WHICH WAS AT 95% OF THE GOAL. THE AREAS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR FY 2007 WERE:**

- **THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER, THE HATTIE HOLMES WELLNES CENTER ON KENNEDY STREET, NW IN WARD 4 WITH MORE THAN 1,000 PERSONS ATTENDING.**
- **SENIORS WERE SERVED OVER 1 MILLION NUTRITIOUS MEALS**
- **4,169 HOMEBOUND SENIORS RECEIVED 552,560 HOME-DELIVERED MEALS**
- **1,771 SENIORS RECEIVED NUTRITION EDUCATION**
- **744 SENIORS RECEIVED NUTRITION COUNSELING**
- **PLACED 774 SENIORS IN UNSUBSIDIZED AND SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING OR INTERNSHIPS AND JOB SEARCH ASSISTANCE.**
- **ALMOST 400 RESIDENTS WERE SERVED AT THE WASHINGTON CENTER FOR AGING SERVICES (WCAS), THE OFFICE ON AGING SUPPORTED NURSING FACILITY**
- **470 PERSONS WERE SERVED THROUGH THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CAREGIVER'S INSTITUTE**
- **952 CAREGIVERS RECEIVED RESPITE AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES**
- **728 HOURS OF HEAVY HOUSE-CLEANING SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR HOME-BOUND ELDERLY**

- **96,022 HOURS OF HOMEMAKER AND PERSONAL CARE SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR HOME-BOUND ELDERLY**
- **79,280 TRANSPORTATION TRIPS TO AND FROM MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS UTILIZING THE WASHINGTON ELDERLY HANDICAPPED TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM (WEHTS).**
- **219 SENIORS USED THE CALL'N' RIDE TAXICAB VOUCHER PROGRAM**
- **32,140 HOURS OF GERIATRIC ASSESSMENT AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES WERE PROVIDED**
- **5,069 SENIORS PARTICIPATED IN HEALTH PROMOTION, SELF-CARE TRAINING AND WELLNESS ACTIVITIES**
- **598 SENIORS PARTICIPATED IN THE BODYWISE WATER AEROBICS PROGRAM AT UDC – INSTITUTE OF GERONTOLOGY**
- **92,018 HOURS OF GERIATRIC DAY CARE SERVICES WERE PROVIDED**
- **3,370 SENIORS PARTICIPATED IN SOCIALIZATION ACTIVITIES**
- **200 PERSONS RECEIVED SERVICES FROM THE OASIS SENIOR CENTER FOR THE DISPLACED/HOMELESS ELDERLY**
- **165,800 HOURS OF PSYCHO-SOCIAL COUNSELING SERVICES WERE PROVIDED FOR 9,454 SENIORS**
- **394 SENIORS RECEIVED SERVICES FROM THE SPANISH SENIOR CENTER**
- **58 SENIORS RECEIVED SERVICES THROUGH THE EXTENDED SERVICES TO THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED PROGRAM**

- **59 SENIORS WERE SERVED THROUGH THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PROGRAM**
- **180 SENIORS RECEIVED SERVICES THROUGH THE ASIAN/CHINESE CULTURAL CENTER FOR SENIORS**

**ADDITIONALLY, THE DC OFFICE ON AGING:**

- **PARTNERED WITH THE D. C. METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY. A TWELVE WEEK PROGRAM THAT PROVIDED 40 SENIOR CITIZENS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR UNDERSTANDING THE OPERATIONS OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, BECOMING AMBASSADORS TO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND VOLUNTEER TO HELP PROVIDE GREATER PUBLIC SAFETY.**
- **ASSISTED SENIORS IN ENROLLING IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT PROGRAM BY WORKING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, DCOA GRANTEES AND THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HEALTH INSURANCE COUNSELING PROJECT TO REACH OUT TO THE THOUSANDS OF SENIORS, ESPECIALLY HARD TO REACH POPULATIONS AND THE "DUAL ELIGIBLES," UNDER MEDICARE AND MEDICAID.**
- **FUNDED "THE DC REAL ESTATE TAX SALES" PROJECT WHICH IS OPERATED BY LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE ELDERLY. THIS PROJECT IDENTIFIES SENIOR HOMEOWNERS WHOSE HOMES ARE AT RISK OF BEING SOLD DUE TO DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES; ABOUT 130 SENIOR HOMEOWNERS RETAINED THEIR PROPERTY AS A RESULT OF THIS PROJECT.**
- **WROTE AND PUBLISHED 12 SECTIONS OF THE "SPOTLIGHT ON AGING," A FEATURED NEWSLETTER IN THE SENIOR BEACON NEWSPAPER THAT HAS A READERSHIP OF OVER 200,000 MONTHLY**



- **HOSTED VARIOUS ANNUAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS:**

- **HEALTH FAIRS**
- **SENIOR CITIZENS OUTREACH INITIATIVES**
- **SENIOR DAY CELEBRATION**
- **ELDERFEST**
- **THE DISTRICT'S SALUTE TO CENTENARIANS**
- **THE MS. SENIOR D. C. PAGEANT**
- **THE CHRISTMAS AND THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS**
- **STAFFED AND SUPPORTED ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE D. C. COMMISSION ON AGING INCLUDING THEIR ANNUAL INTERGENERATIONAL POSTER CONTEST, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNITED BLACK FUND.**

**THE OFFICE ON AGING CLOSED THE 2007 FISCAL YEAR DEVOID OF ANY FISCAL LIABILITIES, WITHIN THE APPROVED BUDGET, AND THE ANNUAL AUDIT REVEALED NO DISALLOWED COSTS OR NOTED DEFICIENCIES.**

**IN FY 2008 AND BEYOND THE OFFICE WILL FACE MAJOR CHALLENGES IN MEETING THE GROWING NEED OF SENIORS AGE 85 AND OVER (THIS AGE GROUP HAS INCREASED 8% SINCE 2000) AND DCOA WILL NEED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT NEW PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ATTRACT AND MEET THE NEEDS OF BABY BOOMERS WHO RECENTLY TURNED 60 YEARS OLD. THUS,**

**DCOA WILL PROVIDE GREATER OPTIONS FOR BOTH COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS AND IN-HOME SERVICES. ADDITIONALLY, WE WILL CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE SENIOR WELLNESS AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLES NECESSARY TO PREVENT CHRONIC DISEASE AND PROMOTE BETTER MANAGEMENT OF THESE CONDITIONS WHEN, AND IF, THEY OCCUR.**

**THE FY 2008 DCOA APPROVED PERFORMANCE PLAN REPRESENTS A START IN ADDRESSING CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES OF AN INCREASING NUMBER OF OLDER AND MORE DIVERSE ELDERLY RESIDENTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. SPECIFICALLY, THE AGENCY'S FY 08 PERFORMANCE PLAN WILL FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- WARD 1 SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER CONSTRUCTION THAT WILL START THIS MONTH WITH AN EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE OF SPRING 2009.**
- WARD 6 SENIOR WELLNESS CENTER BID CONTRACTS AWARD WITH A GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY THIS SUMMER.**
- A CONTINUED FOCUS AND WORK PROCESS ON A COORDINATED LONG-TERM CARE POLICY AND PROGRAMS WITH OTHER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCIES INCLUDING THE HIGHLY PROMISING AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENER**

**(ADRC) WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO START-UP IN MAY 2008.**

- **FACILITATING AND STIUMULATING SPECIAL NEED HOUSINGS FOR SENIORS INCLUDING HOUSING SITE PLAN DEVELOPMENT AT THE WASHINGTON CENTER FOR AGING SERVICES AND THE USE OF CLOSED SCHOOL FACILITIES.**
- **CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW CUSTOMER OR CLIENT INFORMATION SERVICE SYSTEM (HARMONY) INCLUDING MONITORING, EVALUATION AND ENHANCEMENTS.**
- **AGGRESSIVE AND SUCCESSFUL GRANT SEEKING.**
- **ANALYSIS OF CURRENT ELDERLY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND SERVICES.**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION FOR SENIORS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**
- **PROVIDE SUPPORT AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO "AGING IN PLACE" INNOVATIONS SIMILAR TO THE BEACON HILL VILLAGE MODEL FOR ALL NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE DISTRICT.**
- **EXPANSION OF INTERGENERATIONAL PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT LINKED TO SENIOR WELLNESS CENTERS AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.**
- **CONDUCT AN AGENCY NEEDS ASSESSMENT INCLUDING THE SENIOR SERVICE NETWORK.**
- **CONDUCT AN OPEN AND COMPETITIVE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS FOR SENIOR SERVICES.**

- **ASSUME MANAGEMENT OVERSIGHT OF THE JB JOHNSON NURSING HOME AND CONTINUE MONITORING AND OVERSIGHT OF THE WASHINGTON CENTER FOR AGING SERVICES.**
- **MONITOR AND ENSURE THE FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND INTEGRITY OF GRANTEEES.**

**AND LASTLY, DCOA WILL CONTINUE TO BE INNOVATIVE AND VIGILANT ABOUT CARING FOR OUR OLDER RESIDENTS TO ENSURE THEY CAN "AGE IN PLACE" AND LIVE SAFE, HEALTHY, INDEPENDENT, AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES. WE ARE THUS POSITIONING THE AGENCY FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY. AND, AS IN THE PAST, THE MAYOR'S LEADERSHIP, HIS EXECUTIVE BRANCH SUPPORT AND THE LEADERSHIP OF THE COUNCIL WILL CONTINUE TO BE INVALUABLE IN ADDRESSING THE NEEDS AND SERVICES OF THE DISTRICT'S OLDER POPULATION.**

**I THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAR BEFORE YOUR COMMITTEE TODAY. THIS CONCLUDES MY TESTIMONY. I WILL BE PLEASED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU AND YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS MAY HAVE.**